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1 August 1963

NOTES FOR DISCUSSION

SUBJECT : Implementation of PNIOs

REFERENCES: a. USIB-D-25.1/6, 13 June 1963  
b. USIB-M-278, 10 July 1963, Item 3

1. As I understand it, Recommendation 3.e of Reference a. was designed to provide USIB and the DCI with more systematic advice as to the continuing relevance of the PNIOs and as to community efforts to ensure their implementation.

2. In practice, it would appear, the "committees concerned" are not in a position to advise on such a broad and complex mix of substance and action. In both substance and action, the USIB Departments and Agencies, collectively and individually, are generally better equipped to speak on such matters. Moreover, an attempt to "implement" the PNIOs or even to report "actions taken or planned" presupposes the existence -- at least on the collection side -- of an agreed community view as to the critical elements within each PNIO that warrants special priority effort (See Ref. a., Paras. 3 and 4, p. 14, Appendix A). Such a view does not exist and I doubt that the effort involved in creating it would greatly advance the problem.

3. I suggest, however, that the USIB Departments and Agencies and the "committees concerned" do, between them, have the capability of analyzing the evidence and providing a judgment assessment of each individual PNIO -- an expert view, both from the standpoint of information and analytical resources -- of our prospects of an adequate coverage of each of the listed critical substantive problems. Such a composite community view of each of these 10 listed objectives -- how well are we doing and where are we badly short or expected to be -- would probably not be too difficult to develop and would provide USIB with important programmatic information not presently available and perhaps identify particular problems for further study and recommendation.

4. In order to "clarify the intent and purpose of" Recommendation 3.e, I recommend it be revised to read:

"e. Assign to the Coordination Staff responsibility for preparing for USIB a report that presents, in summary form, a judgment

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assessment of the USIB agencies and USIB committees with respect to each individual PNIO. This report, to be based upon formal contributions from each USIB agency and appropriate USIB committees, should identify, in a composite sense, the judgment of the intelligence community as to the adequacy or shortcomings of its present coverage of each PNIO, including the particulars of major deficiencies, and as to future prospects for coverage."

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